

2. Burgoyne RW, Acosta RX, Yamamoto J: Telephone prompting to increase attendance at a psychiatric outpatient clinic. *Am J Psychiatry* 1983; 140:345-347
3. Casey R, Rosen B, Glowasky A, Ludwig S: An intervention to improve follow-up of patients with otitis media. *Clin Pediatr* 1985; 24:149-152
4. Cromer B, Chacko M, Phillips S: Increasing appointment compliance through telephone reminders: Does it ring true? *J Dev Behav Pediatr* 1987; 8:133-135
5. Gates SJ, Colborn DK: Lowering appointment failures in a neighborhood health center. *Med Care* 1976; 14:263-267
6. Landman GB, Meade ED, Landman PF: Increasing the 'show rate' in a school problems clinic. *Am J Dis Child* 1986; 140:1197-1198
7. Schroeder SA: Lowering broken appointment rates at a medical clinic. *Med Care* 1973; 11:75-78
8. Shepard DS, Moseley TAE: Mailed versus telephoned appointment reminders to reduce broken appointments in a hospital outpatient department. *Med Care* 1976; 14:268-272
9. Shivack IM, Sullivan CW: Use of telephone prompts at an inner-city outpatient clinic. *Hosp Community Psychiatry* 1989; 40:851-853
10. Kluger MP, Karras A: Strategies for reducing missed initial appointments in a community mental health center. *Community Ment Health J* 1983; 19:137-143
11. Miettinen OS: Individual matching with multiple controls in the case of all or none responses. *Biometrics* 1969; 25:339-354
12. Morse DL, Coulter MP, Nazarian LF, Napodano RJ: Waning effectiveness of mailed reminders on reducing broken appointments. *Pediatrics* 1981; 68:846-849
13. Cherkin D: Effectiveness of follow-up reminder methods (Letter). *J Fam Pract* 1989; 28:20
14. Quattlebaum TG, Darden PM, Sperry JB: Effectiveness of computer-generated appointment reminders. *Pediatrics* 1991; 88:801-805

* * *

BIOPSY

(The doctor asks do I want to see?)

I don't know that I do.
A jelly of cells floats
like the medusa, lion's mane.

Tiny blood-weeping tentacles,
a bottle of clues fished up
by a Sherlock Holmes.

Pain has me staring at the ceiling,
bobbing in her adrenaline wake.
The nurse says, call Tuesday,

leaving all weekend for cancer dreams,
a tidepool of proliferation.
I hardly come up for breath,

but swim downstream to a primitive place,
the robed society of my thoughts,
where fear flames like a cross.

I turn cunning as a superstition
to wait out the stone cold cutlery
of the pathologist's eye.

But the news arrives through my body
like a processional,
gradual as light through water,

till it is everywhere, underneath,
another species nosing me up and out
of my own clear, dark womb, reborn.

CHRISTINA ANDERSON McKINLEY ©
Mill Valley, California